

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 SY-05 /020 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JRCOUNTRYMAN:LB

APPROVED BY NEA/SSOBER

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R 172200Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, KU

SUBJECT: DISCONTINUANCE OF A-2 VISAS FOR SAUDI ARABIAN  
AND KUWAITI GOVERNMENT STUDENTS

REFERENCE: STATE 140248

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH  
SAUDI AND KUWAITI EMBASSIES AND OTHER US AGENCIES TO  
REGULARIZE ARAB STUDENTS FROM A-2 TO F-1 OR J-1 VISA  
STATUS. DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN ASSURANCES TO CHAIRMAN OF  
HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP AND INTER-  
NATIONAL LAW, THAT THIS PROCESS WILL BE COMPLETED BY  
OCTOBER 31, 1976.

2. ACCORDINGLY WE HAVE SOUGHT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION  
FROM THE TWO EMBASSIES HERE. ON JUNE 30, DEPUTY ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY SOBER WROTE TO KUWAITI AMBASSADOR JAFFAR  
EXPLAINING THAT IN CONNECTION WITH THE IMPENDING CHANGE-  
OVER IN THE STATUS OF KUWAITI GOVERNMENT STUDENTS, IT WOULD  
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BE NECESSARY FOR THEM TO DEMONSTRATE ABILITY TO SUPPORT

THEMSELVES WHILE IN THE US. REALIZING THAT IT WOULD BE ONEROUS BURDEN FOR THE KUWAITI CULTURAL MISSION HERE TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL LETTERS FOR EVERY STUDENT WE OBTAINED IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE ACCEPTANCE OF A

BLANKET CERTIFICATION FOR ALL STUDENTS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE LIST WE HAVE FROM THE MISSION.

3. UNFORTUNATELY AMBASSADOR JAFFAR SENT OUR PROPOSED TEXT OF LETTER WHICH WOULD HAVE EMBODIED THE NECESSARY CERTIFICATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHICH HAS FORWARDED IT ON TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR APPROVAL. PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUMMER VACATION PERIOD NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY KUWAITI BUREAUCRACY AND IN THE MEANTIME OCTOBER 31 DEADLINE IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY SHOULD AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY CONTACT APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND URGE THAT APPROVAL BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO AMBASSADOR JAFFAR TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH NECESSARY LETTER OF CERTIFICATION, SUGGESTED TEXT OF WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT ASSURES THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THAT THE EMBASSY WILL BE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EDUCATIONAL COSTS AND LIVING EXPENSES OF ALL KUWAITI GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY HELD A-2 VISAS DURING THE PERIOD OF THEIR STUDY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. UNQUOTE.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD ASSURE GOK THAT IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE US VALUES PRESENCE HERE OF KUWAITI STUDENTS THAT IT DOES NOT WANT ANY LAST MINUTE EMBARRASSMENT FOR THEM. KISSINGER

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